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Divers Down!

Cadets get wet in Special Forces SCUBA school



Cadet David Grammier (above) from California Polytechnic University, shares his air with West Point Cadet Ron Garberson as they practice dealing with an equipment failure in a swimming pool. Bigger challenges await in the Deep Dive Tower (below, right).

Story and photos by Maj. Paul Buechner California Polytechnic State Univ.

Several dozen times each training day, ROTC and West Point cadets say, "I feel fine," as they surface from each of many underwater breath-holding exercises. They are training to be Combat Divers and the event is part of a five-week specialty-training course for Army Special Forces officers and NCOs, Air Force Combat Controllers and Parachute Rescue medics (PJs). The repetitious phrase is an indicator instructors use to see if a diver has an uncommon, but possible, diving malady called DCS, or decompression sickness. If he has DCS, he cannot properly pronounce the "f" sounds. It's a simple and effective means for a dive supervisor, the airborne jumpmaster



equivalent, to check on the status of those in his charge.

The Army Special Forces Underwater Operations (SFUWO) School is located on Fleming Key of the Naval Air Station, Key West, Fla., and is operated by Company C, 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). The Company C commander, Maj. Chris Hoguet, who is a 1989 ROTC graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, is responsible for training select groups of soldiers and airmen from within the U.S. and Allied Special Operations community in the various aspects of maritime operations. The cadre at SFUWO is as unique as the maritime mission itself and comprise experienced service members from three services within U.S. Spe-

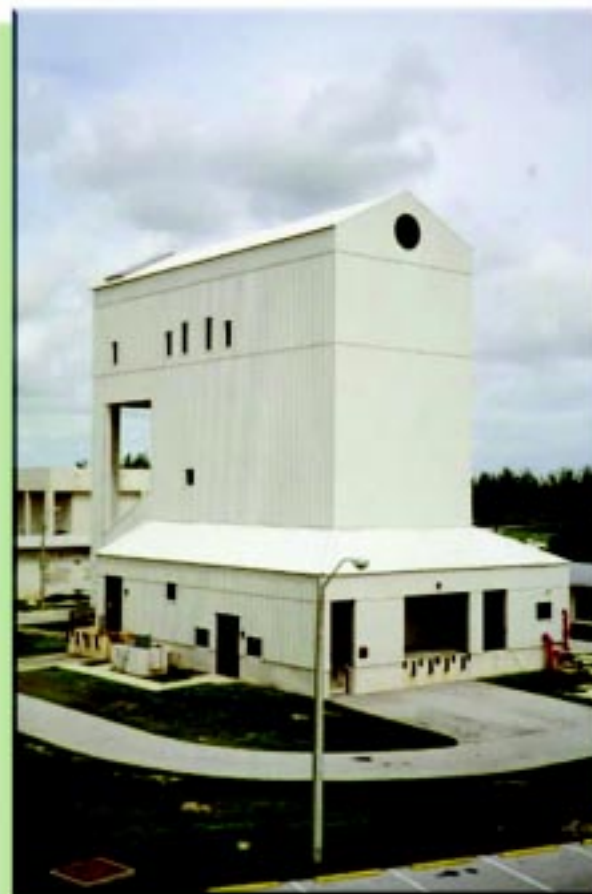
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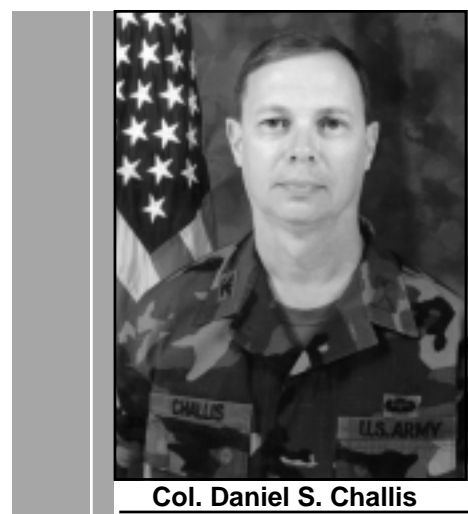
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NAU cadet makes the cut**

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Col. Daniel S. Challis

A warm welcome to 4th Region’s new cadets and cadre scattered among our 78 Senior ROTC host programs and 443 high school Junior ROTC battalions. You have joined organizations that will challenge you, reward you, and develop you if you give 100 percent effort to your respective battalion. We also welcome back those returning cadets and cadre who have enjoyed a wide variety of summer experiences ranging from summer courses to summer camps, part or full time employment to just hanging out. At each school the LET 4s

and MS IVs have now assumed the battalion leadership positions so crucial to success in the coming year. I wish you the very best as you assume your new duties.

In the Senior ROTC programs, we enjoyed great success in training and commissioning an increasing number of second lieutenants into the active Army, United States Army Reserve, and Army National Guard. In the just-completed Fiscal Year 2002, 4th Region universities commissioned 1,051 new lieutenants, an increase of 73 over last year. That success is a trib-

ute to the quality and hard work of our cadets and the commitment and personal energy of our campus cadre.

As we tackle the challenges and seize the opportunities of this fresh academic year I urge each of you to focus on teamwork, safe and responsible behavior and academic excellence. You are indeed our nation’s and our Army’s future. We are immensely proud of your willingness to be different. Have a great and productive year.

Ruck up and move out!



Meeting the challenge of ROTC Instructor duty

By Master Sgt. Jose A. Madera
Former ROTC Instructor
Re-Printed from *The NCO Journal*

When my Command Sergeant Major at Fort Hood, Texas, informed me that I had orders to Cadet Command, I wondered if my professional experience would apply to the role of a college instructor. I considered my new audience to be civilians who had a very slight understanding about the military and I questioned their motivation for participating in a military program. I felt that soldiering was a profession, not an extracurricular activity. I wondered, “Can I turn college students into Army officers?”

But once I arrived on campus and met with the Military Science professor, the clouds of doubt lifted. I recognized I had a once-in-a-career chance. I would demonstrate to my students what

an active duty senior NCO must be, know and do to lead soldiers. To meet that challenge, I started with myself. I worked hard to polish my delivery in the classroom, to personify the Army Values both on and off duty, and above all to promote the NCO Corps as a group of professional soldiers who deserved respect but would return that respect tenfold to their officer leadership.


In short, I renewed my dedication to this small passage from the NCO Creed:

“Officers in my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine.”

My goal was for my cadets to leave the classroom confident in the truth of the NCO Creed and determined to meet those standards them-

selves.

I have to admit, it was not an easy task to leave my tank battalion and assume a duty that I had never attempted. But as my first year at Indiana University at Purdue passed, I realized that, although my duty station had changed, my mission had not. At Fort Hood, I trained young soldiers and junior NCOs to master their individual and collective tasks, to project resolute leadership and to live the Army Values. My cadets were responding just like my soldiers did. I was making soldiers and I was proud of them. But this time, what I made would become what I would follow.

When I return to those soldiers as a sergeant major, I can tell them that the officers they’ll follow are the best America has to offer. I know, because I made them. 

Cheney visits his Wyoming alma mater

By 2nd Lt. Joshua Matthews
University of Wyoming

Vice President Dick Cheney spoke at the University of Wyoming’s Arena Auditorium Sept. 27, accompanied by former Wyoming Sen. Alan Simpson, and reminisced on the experience of being a student at the University of Wyoming. He also discussed the current confrontation with Iraq.

UW Army and Air Force ROTC Cadets escorted guests, including the Vice President’s wife, Lynn Cheney, and assisted the police with security in the auditorium. In his presentation, Cheney remarked how UW’s affordable, first-class education made it possible for

him to earn his Master’s Degree from the university in 1966. He also praised the university for providing the foundational elements for his political career.

Cheney didn’t hesitate to reaffirm President Bush’s stance on Iraq despite a few open protests within the crowd. But most people in the audience applauded Cheney’s comments about Iraq.

“Only the United States today has the capacity to take on Saddam Hussein,” he said, “and deal with the threat he presents.” Cheney also pointed to recent intelligence reports indicating that Saddam has increased Iraq’s capacity to produce weapons of mass destruction and said this problem would only worsen without appropriate action. Cheney noted that if the terrorists had



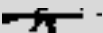
2nd Lt. Joshua Matthews

Vice President Dick Cheney addresses the students and faculty at UW.

access to biological or nuclear weapons, they would have used them instead of passenger jets to attack America. He further explained the reluctance of some countries to lend their support to the

United States as a result of their not being able to deal with the threat on their own or their not feeling threatened by Iraq in the same way the U.S. does.

“Nobody else lost over 3,000 people last September 11th,” Cheney said. Sen. Alan Simpson praised Cheney for his ability to speak on complex issues with clarity and for his stability, class and integrity. He said Cheney is a “soldier in his field and has made Wyoming citizens proud.”

As he left the auditorium, Cheney stopped and waved to the group of Army and Air Force ROTC Cadets seated nearby and thanked them for their participation. 



Col. Daniel S. Challis

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Combat course develops divers in SCUBA school

DIVERS, Cont. from Page 1

cial Operations Command.

During the Special Forces Combat Diver Course, or CDQC, students are taught the basics in open-circuit scuba (self-contained underwater breathing apparatus) and closed-circuit “UBA” operations. The U.S. Navy is the proponent of the course program of instruction, which basically mirrors the training received by Basic Underwater Demolitions / SEAL (BUD/S) students during their Phase II, or dive phase. Open-circuit training includes, but is not limited to, underwater search and recovery, submarine lock-in/lock-out procedures, ship-bottom search, 130-foot-deep qualification dive, infiltration techniques and, of course, diver physical fitness.

Once the students have mastered the basics in open-circuit, they proceed directly into closed-circuit training employing the Draeger LAR V Re-breather. This closed-loop breathing system allows the diver to recycle exhaled oxygen back into the system that removes exhaled carbon dioxide produced by the body’s metabolic processes. A cylinder of aviator grade (very pure) breathing oxygen augments this process. Since the LAR V either recycles or retains all exhaled gases within the system, it renders the diver silent and virtually undetectable from the surface.

During both phases of training, the students learn underwater navigation techniques for both day and night



Got air? Trying to relax between breath-hold swims in the Navy SEALs Combat Training Tank in Coronado, Calif., are (from front) Cadets Kyle Kirby from Eastern Kentucky University, Jordan Burfield from University of Wisconsin-Madison, and students from other programs.

situations. Their knowledge, skills and accuracy will be tested through the conduct of dives with varying tide, wave and current conditions and distances of up to 3,000 meters.

Attending CDQC is an extraordinary training opportunity that just a few very select and fortunate cadets can experience. At the same time, they are able to hone valuable leadership skills that will serve them well as future junior officers. Cadet Patrick Hane of Cal Poly State University, a recent 6th Regiment NALC graduate, said “The stresses in CDQC make everything else, no matter what, seem easy.” Junior Cadet David Grammier, also of Cal Poly, said he “Learned the importance of taking the initiative and quick thinking for problem solving.”

The United States Army Special Operations Com-




Four student divers prepare for the underwater navigation/infiltration swim, holding their masks in place for the roll overboard. The bouys will mark their progress. Learning the importance of joint operations, on the far left is Cadet Jordan Burfield from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and second from right is Cadet Kevin Brain from VMI, while the other two divers are Air Force Combat Controllers.

mand, USASOC, views cadet attendance of such a specialty course as a small investment in inspiring these quality cadets to become Special Forces officers once their initial service obligation ends. Cadet Michael Moyer from Pleasanton Calif., knows that being an ROTC cadet is one of the first steps toward his goal of becoming a Special Forces officer. “I have learned particularly from my training the importance of attention to the details,” he said while reflecting on his Pre-CDQC experiences.

A critical step in the process of preparing a cadet for CDQC is to attend and complete the prerequisite Pre-CDQC that lasts two weeks, or 10 training days. Upon completion of the Pre-CDQC, the training cadre then recommends those students for attendance to the course at the SFUWO School. Cadet Eric Goltry, also of Cal Poly State University, said that Pre-CDQC “Was incredibly hard, definitely the most challenging thing I’ve ever done.”

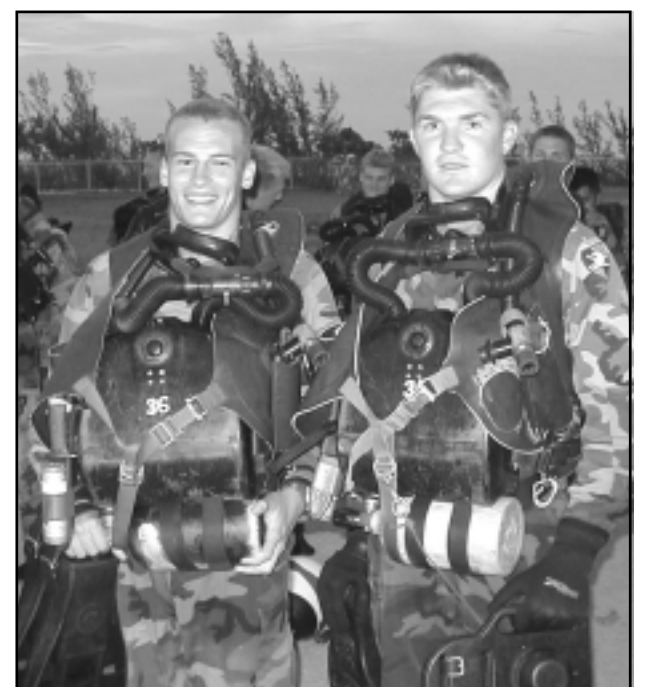
However, completion and recommendation does not necessarily guarantee success in CDQC. Through extensive coordination and dedicated effort on the part of the Special Forces cadre assigned to the Naval Special Warfare Center, in particular Capt. Doug Overdeer, a ROTC graduate of Vanderbilt University, two Pre-CDQCs were conducted for Cadet Command this year. The first took place from March 23 to April 2 at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado Calif. Cadets from California Polytech-

nic State University, University of Wisconsin (Madison), University of Arizona, Eastern Kentucky University and University of Arkansas attended. The second Pre-CDQC occurred at Virginia Military Institute from May 18 to 28 where those cadets as well as a cadet from Brigham Young University and Old Dominion University attended.

The common thread that allowed these specific ROTC programs to have cadets participate in this training were the Special Forces branch cadre with combat diver background and training who dedicated many additional hours over the course of the academic year in preparing their cadets for success. As a result, from approximately 25 cadets who attended the two Pre-CDQCs, there was an order-of-merit list with 14 cadets earning slots to Key West. Since then, 10 of 14 ROTC and 14 of 17 West Point cadets have earned the coveted “bubble” of the Special Forces Combat Diver. 



If you think push-ups are difficult, try them with a set of 85-pound open-circuit diving cylinders and a 16-pound diving belt.



Grinning in anticipation of their upcoming graduation, Cadets David Grammier (left), an Army ROTC cadet from California Polytechnic State university, and Adam Beck, from the West Point Academy, are sporting Draeger closed-circuit re-breather devices.

Lumberjack Battalion chronicled for National Journalism Competition: Brenda Ahearn captures cadets in professional photo format

By Lt. Col. Daniel Godfrey
Northern Arizona University

In April of 2001, NAU staff photographer Brenda Ahearn was invited to photograph the Lumberjack Battalion's cadets as they participated in the annual Spring FTX 2001. While at in the FTX, Ahern discussed with the recruiting and operations officer, retired Lt. Col. Charles Griffin, that she was looking for an unique subject for an upcoming year-long national photo-



“Round the clock training.”



“Teamwork at its best.”



“Objective focus.”

journalistic competition. Griffin recommended NAU's Army ROTC program, saying it would be perfect for the project. Ahearn agreed and began her picture series entitled “A Year in the Life of a Lumberjack Cadet.”

The project encompassed almost every aspect of what a cadet can go through in an academic year. Ahearn practically lived at the ROTC department, taking more than a thousand pictures

ranging from uniform issue, boot shining, Ranger Challenge, leadership labs, physical fitness, drill and ceremony, commissioning ceremonies and FTXs. She attended every leadership lab and was up at 5 a.m. to photograph the annual FTX. Ahearn also climbed to the top of the NAU campus' indoor domed athletic facility to take pictures from the crow's nest of Lumberjack cadets conducting a 175-foot free rappel to begin the NAU Homecoming Football Game.

In May, during the 2002 Annual Lumberjack Dining-Out, Ahern was made an honorary member of the Lumberjack Battalion. She donated 200 pictures to the Lumberjack Battalion to forever memorialize the 2002 school year for the cadets. These pictures were put into a music-supported slide presentation and presented during the battalion's annual dining-out to parents, families and friends. Currently the presentation has been added to the NAU Army ROTC website at <http://www4.nau.edu/Army>.



Brenda Ahearn frames a shot.

Lt. Col. Daniel Godfrey

NAU cadet gets the Gold Axe

By Lt. Col. Daniel Godfrey
Northern Arizona University

Each year Northern Arizona University, in Flagstaff, Ariz., recognizes seniors who have made outstanding contributions to the university with academic performance, community service and on-campus activities. These seniors receive the school's prestigious Gold Axe award. The Gold Axe is typically given to students who demonstrate outstanding values, leadership and an extraordinary amount of commitment to academics, community and the university. The NAU administration and academic department chairs select the Golden Axe awardees annually. During the 2002 academic year, only 32 students were chosen for this award from a graduating class of about 4,000.

Cadet Leslie Borges is one of the Gold Axe awardees. Borges, who attended Basic Camp-2001 and was awarded a two-year Basic Camp scholarship, graduated with a 3.3 GPA with a double major of Political Science and Public Affairs. Borges served in the student government



Cadet Leslie Borges and Lt. Col. Charles Griffin

for two years. Her other honors include Dean's List 1998-2001, Order of Omega New Member of the Year 2001, NAU President's Award 2001, and NAU Literary Scholarship Recipient 1998-2001. She has also been selected to attend Syracuse University in the fall of 2002 to pursue a Masters in Public Affairs from the most prestigious graduate program in public affairs in the nation.

Dr. John D. Haegar, the president of NAU, presented Borges with the award during the Golden Axe Award banquet April 23. The recipients nominated the most influential, positive mentor and role model in their academic career to be recognized and honored as well. Hagar recognized retired Lt. Col. Charles Griffin as the most influential NAU faculty member in Borges' academic career.

Borges is the second student from the Army ROTC Lumberjack Battalion to receive this honor at NAU. Griffin, the recruiting operations officer, military science instructor and a Communications Technology employee, is the first faculty member from the Army ROTC Lumberjack Battalion to receive this honor at NAU.

Lt. Col. Daniel Godfrey

Cadets learn arctic skills


By Cadet Patrick Lyons
University of Alaska - Fairbanks

ROTC cadets throughout the nation receive training in conducting battle drills, writing operations orders and using the troop leading procedures - important tools in becoming America's future leaders. But how would they survive temperatures of -50 degrees with a wind chill reaching -110 degrees, conditions that are common in the Alaskan arctic?

On March 9, cadets from the University of Alaska - Fairbanks' Nanook Battalion gained valuable hands-on experience and information that could be used to save not only their own lives, but also the lives of others. The Arctic Survival Skills lab trained the UAF cadets to ski, snowshoe, build fires, utilize the ahkio sled and construct snow-shelters.

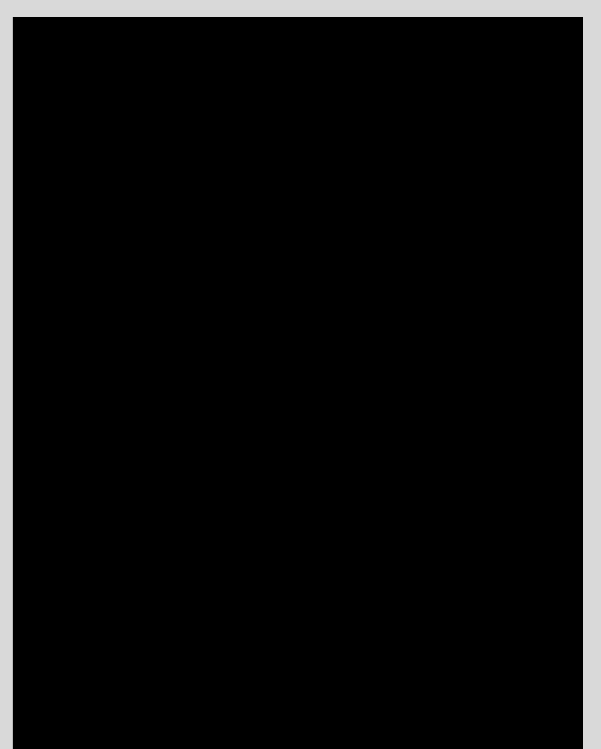
The training day began with the issue of necessary equipment to endure the arctic temperature - balaclavas, winter parkas, arctic mittens and vapor-barrier (bunny) boots. Following the equipment issue, the cadets were ready. They familiarized themselves with each of five arctic-skill events. They were divided into squads rotating through each event. In the skiing training, cadets learned to cross-country ski with Army-issue skis, while snowshoeing taught them how to traverse and move through deep snow. Fire-building techniques enabled them to improvise and build a warming fire with little more than a bit of snowshoe material (magnesium) and a knife. Snow-shelter construction involved building an improvised shelter using snowdrifts or tree branches. Ahkio familiarization demonstrated the usefulness of sleds to transport and store squad equipment such as tents and fuel. Upon rotating through the arctic-skills events, Cadet Alain M. Etienne said, "At what other university would you be able to conduct this training? Only in Alaska."

For lunch, cadets were issued special Army cold-weather rations. Each ration contained a massive 4,000 calories, twice the calories of a normal field ration. Entrees included chili, spaghetti and beef stew. These additional calories are needed to generate heat and to nourish the body for the highly strenuous activity in arctic conditions. The day's training culminated in a squad competition that pitted all squads in a 50-meter uphill ahkio race. The winners may have won the race, but all Nanook Battalion cadets finished the day as winners, learning how to operate and survive in the Alaskan winter.

Cadet Kirk V. Thorsteinson, summed up the day perfectly, "I now have the confidence to survive in the arctic." 



Nanook cadets from 2nd Squad run the ahkio sled race.



Plourd takes the Third

Col. Daniel S. Challis, commander of 4th Region (ROTC), hands the unit colors to Col. Patrick N. Plourd, incoming commander of the region's 3rd Brigade, in front of the Seaside High School Junior ROTC Color Guard during the Change of Command Ceremony at Soldier Field, Presidio of Monterey in California. Plourd, who previously commanded the 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry at Fort Drum, N.Y. and was also the Military Liaison Chief to the government of Ukraine, replaced Col. Hector E. Topete, who is being assigned as Inspector General for the State of California, with duties in Sacramento. The Golden Bear Brigade is headquarters for 19 Senior ROTC battalions and 129 Junior ROTC programs located on university and high school campuses in California, Arizona and Utah.

-PAO

Nevada governor proclaims Cadet Dodd Day

Compiled by PAO and UNR staff

Exceptional cadets are often honored for achievements both inside their battalions and by their schools and communities as well. One such student, however, had the entire state set aside a day in his honor. May 15, 2002 was declared Cadet Joseph A. Dodd Day in the state of Nevada by a gubernatorial proclamation. And Dodd, who is from the University of Nevada - Reno, is the kind of scholar, athlete and leader who well deserves such high-level recognition.

This extraordinary event, as might be expected, came about as the result of exceptional circumstances. The Army ROTC battalion at UNR was contacted earlier by staffers with Nevada's Governor's office. They were doing research on the Annual Governor's Award, given to an outstanding cadet each May.

Following the events of 9/11 and with the subsequent war on terrorism, Gov. Kenny C. Guinn wanted to find a special way to honor the tremendous contribution the ROTC program provides to national defense. The rigorous training



Nevada Gov. Kenny C. Guinn and Cadet Joseph A. Dodd.

that produces outstanding future military leaders for the nation's military forces needed to be recognized in a unique way.

The Governor's Award was first given in 1937. Many distinguished leaders were recipients in the previous 65 years. For 2002, to truly honor the ROTC commitment, Guinn prepared a

proclamation naming Joseph A. Dodd and ROTC Day for the state of Nevada. The proclamation was presented to Dodd at the Honor-The-Best ceremony on UNR's campus. Two days later, Dodd was commissioned as a second lieutenant. The following day was Commencement.

Today, Dodd proudly serves as the Gold Bar Recruiter at UNR. Dodd was selected because he represents the best of what ROTC stands for, distinguishing himself not only as a cadet, but also during his prior service as an enlisted soldier. He joined the Nevada Army National Guard on May 28, 1998 and, while still a private, was recognized as the Distinguished Soldier of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry Division. Next, Dodd was Distinguished Honor Graduate of the Adjutant General School of Personnel Administration at Fort Jackson, S. C., and was also selected by his peers as the Army Values Soldier.

He received the Leadership Award as a corporal attending the Primary Leadership Development Course at Camp Shelby, Miss. He was

See "Dodd" on Page 7

Green Berets join cadets in joint FTX

Story and photos by Cadet Adighije Chiddy
San Diego State University

A three-quarter moon softly illuminates the top of a nondescript hill just south of Area India at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Staff Sgt. Alex (full name withheld for security) and a group of Army ROTC cadet seniors from San Diego State University huddle there for an impromptu conference, part of the cadet development program that uses NCO ROTC instructors to mentor them. In this case, however, Alex is a member of Operational Detachment Alpha 976, Co. A, 5th Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group, based in nearby San Diego.



The team prepares to enter a building, checking ahead for enemy soldiers and all around to secure the street against surprise attack from behind.

2nd Louie By Bob Rosenburgh



An A-team lies in wait while one of them checks the field ahead before they move out to their objective. Each has MILES equipment installed on their weapons and clothing, adding to the realism.

Alex and his A-team colleagues were all part of the San Diego State University spring FTX 2002, playing OPFOR and advisors, the latter being the main focus of the training. The “Green Berets” were integrated within platoons as squad members and focused on six primary missions, including Foreign Internal Defense (FID) that involves training foreign and para-military organizations. The cadets’ level of proficiency in military tactics, knowl-



One cadet stands guard as another moves along a trail bound for their objective.

edge of doctrines and responsibility of command is comparable to that found in most third world countries. As such, the A-team encountered similar challenges it would face when conducting FID missions anywhere in the world. Gaining the trust of the trainees in this case may not have been difficult, but being careful not to overshadow the already-established cadet chain of command proved to be worth the experience for the SF troops. The senior cadets, who are graduates of National Advanced Leadership Camp and will soon be Army second lieutenants, are responsible for training the juniors as they prepare for the next camp in the following summer. The seniors have a more extensive knowledge of camp requirements drawn from experience and provide the juniors with valuable insights. The Special Forces NCOs, on the other hand, have a wealth of practical military experience and training but

are not familiar with NALC or what it entails, so having them work with the senior cadets is a symbiotic use of personnel for the overall training successes.

In some foreign armies, the military leadership comprises members of a royal family, ruling class or clan elders where “saving face” is top priority for them to keep things balanced. Special Forces troops must be diplomats as well as professional soldiers in order to execute the mission of training soldiers in these regions.

For the cadets, working alongside these professionals was awe-inspiring, as they were advised on Army branches, attaining career goals and trained in modern military techniques like MOUT (Military Operations in Urban Terrain). The soldiers’ esprit was infectious and, for the members of ODA-976, having the opportunity



Once inside the structure, constant vigilance remains an important part of conducting a successful mission in case the enemy counterattacks the A-team.

to see and positively influence the future officers within their ranks and the Army was priceless. The entire team had a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

The number of U.S. involvements in low intensity conflicts in urban terrain is steadily rising and some analysts predict as much as 80 percent of battles will be this kind. The Army, therefore, includes MOUT in its training to meet that threat. And what better way is there for senior cadets to wrap up their training than in combat town at Camp Pendleton, obliterating the OPFOR?



A mixture of Special Forces soldiers and ROTC cadets stand together following the training exercise.

Aggies are honored for assorted summer achievements

Story and photos by Capt. Keith Machen
Texas A&M University



Above, Col. Geoffrey S. Lawrence (center) and Capt. John Woodward (left) shake the hand of Cadet Brennan Speaks. Right, Lawrence and Capt. Dario Lorenzetti congratulate Cadet Christopher Stearns.



Wearing their traditional riding boots and khaki uniforms, a line of Texas A&M University's finest cadets wait to be individually honored for their accomplishments between the 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 school years.

At Texas A&M University on Sept. 5, 47 cadets were recognized in the school's Rudder Theater for their outstanding achievements over the summer. The honors covered certificates for completing Army Airborne and Air Assault Schools, Northern Warfare School and Distinguished Military Student awards.

Cadet Christopher Stearns was the only cadet who qualified, out of two cadet training brigades at Texas A&M University, to receive

the coveted Recondo badge and certificate. Stearns had to master all standard military skills qualifications, score 90 percent on each of the Army Physical Fitness Test events and receive a first-time "GO" on all evaluated leadership tasks.

The top two cadets on the MS-II order of merit list (OML) also achieved high honors for training conducted over the summer. Cadet Ray McPadden, of K-1 was number-one

on the MS-II OML and received his certificate for completing the Army Northern Warfare School. Cadet Brennan Speaks of E-1 was not only number-two on the MS-II OML, he also graduated as the Distinguished Honor Graduate from the Army's Air Assault School.

Twenty-two cadets also received their Airborne wings and Distinguished Military Student Certificates at the ceremony.



"Dodd," cont. from Page 5

promoted to sergeant in July of 2000.

Dodd enrolled in the ROTC program at UNR in October 2000 and has been named a Distinguished Military Student. He served at UNR ROTC as a squad leader, the assistant training officer, the battalion executive officer and the battalion public affairs officer.


As a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program of the Army National Guard, Dodd served as a platoon

leader for the split-option training company and the assistant personnel officer for the 1st Battalion, 421st Regiment in North Reno, where he planned training operations that have become the model for all future field operations.

He has earned a degree in Business Management with a cumulative GPA of 3.22 and has been branched Ordinance with a branch detail assignment to Field Artillery.

While attending college, he held a part-time job with Raley's Superstores where he

received commendation for outstanding customer service. Additionally, he was a member of the UNR Varsity Rifle Team for four years, three of which he spent as the men's team captain.

Dodd's decorations include the Army Achievement Medal (2), the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Expert Rifle Marksmanship Badge, the Expert Pistol Marksmanship Badge and the Superior Cadet Medal. 

Air tactics evolved in Korean War

Compiled by PAO staff

From May through November, 1952, United Nations forces conducted a series of air strikes on Communist forces in Korea. The new UN strategy sought to increase military pressure on North Korea and force the communist negotiators to temper their demands. The 5th Air Force shifted from outlawing missions against transportation networks to attacks on North Korean supply depots and industrial targets. On May 8, UN fighter-bombers blasted a supply depot and a week later destroyed a vehicle repair factory at Tang-dong, a few miles north of Pyongyang.

The 5th Air Force, under a new commander, Maj. Gen. Glen O. Barcus, also destroyed munitions factories and a steel-fabricating plant during the months of May and June. Meanwhile, Gen. Mark W. Clark took over the United Nations Command. The aerial reconnaissance function, always key in target selection, became essential to the strategy of increased aerial assault, since target planners sought the most beneficial targets. One inviting target was the capital city of Pyongyang. It remained unharmed until July 11, when aircraft of the 7th Fleet, the 1st Marine Air Wing, the 5th Air Force, The British Navy and the Republic of Korea Air Force struck military targets there.

Post-strike assessments of Pyongyang showed considerable damage inflicted to command posts, supply dumps, factories, barracks, anti-aircraft gun sites and railroad facilities. The North Koreans then upgraded their anti-aircraft defenses, forcing UN fighter-bombers and light bombers (B-26s) to sacrifice accuracy and bomb from higher altitudes. In September the 5th Air Force sent its aircraft against troop concentrations and barracks in northwest Korea while Bomber Command bombed similar tar-




F-86 Sabre Jet

Bob Rosenbough Illustration

gets near Hamhung in northeast Korea.

Along the front lines, throughout the summer and fall of 1952, UN pilots provided between 2,005 and 4,000 close-air-support sorties each month. For example, FEAF Bomber Command not only flew night-only missions, but also gave radar-directed close air support (10,000 or more meters from friendly positions) at night to front-line troops under communist attack. During the daytime the Mustang (F-51) pilots flew preplanned and immediate close-air-support missions. The 315th Air Division also supported the ground forces, flying supplies and personnel into Korea and returning wounded and reassigned personnel to Japan. C-124s, more efficient on the long haul, carried personnel and cargo. C-47s provided tactical airlift to airfields near the front lines and C-119s handled bulky cargo and airborne and airdrop operations. During the summer of 1952, the 4th and 51st Fighter-Interceptor Wings replaced many of their F-86Es with modified F-86Fs. The new Sabre aircraft had more powerful engines and improved wing leading-edges that allowed them to match the aerial com-

bat performance of the MiG-15 jet fighters of the North Korean and Chinese air forces. Even though the communists had built up their air order of battle, they still tended to restrict their flights to “MiG Alley” and often avoided aerial combat with the F-86 pilots. By August and September, however, MiG pilots showed more inventiveness, and aerial engagements occurred almost daily. Even though the communist pilots improved their tactics and proficiency, U.S. pilots destroyed many more MiGs, achieving at the end of October a ratio of eight enemy losses to every one U.S. loss. The communists, in spite of the pressure of the air campaign, remained stubborn in the truce talks. By October, the communists were ready to resume talks, but both sides agreed to move them to a new location, at Panmunjom. The talks initiated there on October 25. Some concessions were immediately made. For instance, the communists gave up demanding a dividing line directly on the 38th Parallel and accepted a line slightly to the north. The US, for its part, agreed that North Korea would get Kaesong, important symbolically as an ancient capital of Korea. The talks bogged down, however, over the issue of what to do with POWs (Prisoners of War), and even by 1952 the issue wasn’t resolved. The communists, whose forces had suffered a severe disease epidemic, accused the U.S. of using “germ bombs” to make them sick. Tensions soared and little progress was made in the first half of 1952. Adm. C. Turner Joy, an American negotiator at Panmunjom, became so sick of the negotiations that he asked to be replaced. 

Flandreau Indian School students explore military career options

By 2nd Lt. Terry Jame Hoffman
South Dakota State University

High school students seldom know exactly what they would like to do with their lives after graduation. Many students feel overwhelmed with all of the choices that college has to offer. More than 90 students from the Flandreau Indian School (FIS) now know that South Dakota State University and the Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) are an option.

In an interest survey, military service appealed to many FIS students. The Air Force and Army ROTC programs at SDSU were asked to present information on job opportunities in the military. As a result of a great working relationship with FIS, SDSU offered to host the event.

The program was broken down into three sessions. In the first, Army Maj. David Fleckenstein and Air Force Maj. Luke Lorang each presented information on their respective ROTC programs. Videos were shown to further reinforce the valuable and rewarding career experiences of a military officer.

After the initial briefing on each branch, the FIS students went back to DePuy Military Hall for a discussion panel of ROTC cadets. The Army and Air Force cadets fielded questions about college life, military training and what it is that ROTC can do for a student attending college at SDSU.



Cadet Isaac Carson

High school students at South Dakota’s Flandreau Indian School try their hand at a problem-solving exercise during a ROTC career day.

The final activity involved students interacting with each other in a problem solving exercise. Students were placed in a scenario and given 30 minutes to “save” Brookings, S.D. The students were provided with multiple lengths of rope, a rubber tube from a bicycle, a tennis ball and an empty coffee can. Their objective was to move the contaminated popcorn from an “unstable” coffee can to the empty or “safe” coffee can without entering the danger zone or spilling the popcorn, resulting in the destruction of the campus.

This exercise mimics the Field Leadership Reaction Course, which utilizes similar situations to evalu-

ate cadets in their leadership ability. Time constraints, environmental conditions and personal abilities all play a part in building a good learning experience. “The ‘Toxic Popcorn’ activity allows the instructor or group leader to see how participants work together in a group. It is not an easy activity and only about 20 percent of the time are the groups attempting the activity successful,” said Maj. Charles Blasdell, activity coordinator for this event.

He also went on to say that, “Natural leaders often surface during the scenario and communication skills, teamwork and creative problem solving are major keys to success.”

After the final event the participants were treated to a pasta buffet in the Larson Commons dining facility. Each table had at least one SDSU representative to answer questions and collect comments. Upon the completion of dinner, the dean of Arts & Sciences, Lt. Col. Jerry Jorgenson, expressed his thanks to the ROTC programs for their excellent presentations and further discussed the opportunities available at South Dakota State University.

A Junior ROTC program began at Flandreau High School this fall. Many of these young men and women will make great cadets and some may join the Senior ROTC program. 